

THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

LAND FOR PEOPLE

June 3, 2015
Mr. Ernest Martin, Chair
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Clean Water and Natural Lands Funding for Whitmore Agricultural Lands Acquisition

Aloha Chair Martin and Council Members:

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) respectfully requests that the two million dollars (\$2,000,000) allocated toward acquisition of the Whitmore Agricultural Lands in the 2013-2014 budget be continued in the 2016 budget. The acquisition of the Whitmore Agricultural Lands by the Agribusiness Development Corporation is an essential component of restoring large-scale agriculture to Central Oahu and enhancing Oahu's food security for years to come.

The Honolulu Clean Water and Natural Lands funding will be leveraged by both the Hawaii Legacy Land Conservation Fund and United States Navy funding for this acquisition in a partnership that seeks to continue acquiring additional lands in the Whitmore and Helemano area over the next few years not only for agriculture, but also for public recreation, camping, and hunting to the benefit of Oahu's residents and visitors alike.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Very truly yours,



Stephen Rafferty
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